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CSNR selects 12 for Summer Fellowship research program

A dozen university students representing 10 states will spend the summer at the U.S. Department of Energy's Idaho National Laboratory participating in cutting-edge nuclear energy research opportunities. The students were selected from a nation wide competition.

The undergraduate and graduate level students are part of the summer fellowship program sponsored by the Center for Space Nuclear Research (CSNR) and led by Steven D. Howe. The program runs from the middle of May to the middle of August.

As CSNR Summer Fellows, the students will work as part of a team with other students and scientists at INL to complete a research project of current interest to NASA in potential nuclear technology performance. The Summer Fellows program allows participants to experience a real research environment, to learn from top-notch nuclear scientists, and to preview careers in research, according to Howe.

Students selected for the fellowship program and the university they attend include: Mookesh Dhanasar, North Carolina A&T State University; Brian Gross, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Jeffrey Katalenich, Michigan Technological University; Marc Keller, New Mexico State University; Christopher Miller, Pennsylvania State University; Daniel Osterberg, Boise State University; Jeffrey Perkins, Colorado School of Mines; Palaniappan Ramu, University of Florida; Troy Reiss, Idaho State University; Joel Sasser, Louisiana State University; Benjamin Schreib, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Daytona; and Holly Szumila, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Prescott.

The CSNR is located in Idaho Falls and is operated by the Universities Space Research Association and INL. The CSNR is a focus for engaging university research scientists in research and development of advanced space nuclear systems, including power and propulsion systems, and radioisotope power generators. CSNR creates opportunities for university researchers to collaborate with their counterparts at NASA, INL and other DOE labs, in projects and initiatives to advance nuclear technologies for space exploration and other space applications.

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